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Mexico

Fresh Deciduous Fruit

New Documentation Requirements for Imported Peaches

2004

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Report Highlights:

On January 8, 2004, the Mexican government announced new documentation requirements for imported peaches from the United States, Chile, and other countries. These requirements now mirror existing documentation requirements for other agricultural products, such as sugar, apples, and poultry meat. Although these requirements are not expected to create immediate problems, industry sources have expressed concern that such information could be used by the Mexican peach industry as a way to track variety, quality, marketing periods, and consumer demand for imported peaches.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Mexico [MX1] **Introduction:** This report summarizes an announcement published in Mexico's "Diario Oficial" (Federal Register) on January 8, 2004.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: The Secretariat of Treasury (SHCP) announced in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), on January 8, 2004, in Annex 18 of the General Regulations for Foreign Trade 2003, that specific data for imported peaches and nectarines must be included in the invoice or import documents to identify the product as explained below. Similar information has been required for other agricultural products like, sugar, apples, and poultry meat.

Trade Concerns: This regulation is not expected to create immediate problems for exporters because this information is already available on current invoices; what is different is that the inclusion of this information on invoices is now mandatory, rather than voluntary. The now-required information includes identification of product, variety, quality, size, weight, fumigation, and origin (by orchard, packing facility, and zone). However, industry sources do indicate that this information could be used by domestic peach producers in order to track important marketing information and Mexican consumer demand for imported peaches.

Title: Sixth Resolution of Modification to the General Regulations for Foreign Trade 2003 and its Annexes 1, 4, 10, 14, 18, 21 and 23.

Important Dates

Publication Date: January 8, 2004
Effective Date: February 7, 2004

Information to be included on import documents: The following is an unofficial translation of Annex 18 "Data for Individual Identification of Products" pertaining to peaches and nectarines, H.T.S. 0809.30.01, which should be included in invoices when importing peaches and nectarines.

- a) The description of the product should be written as well as the tariff number (e.g., Peach 0809.30.01)
- b) All varieties: stone, cling peach, free stone, and "prisco" variety
- c) Quality grade of peaches:
 - c.1) For U.S. peaches: U.S. Fancy, U.S. Extra No. 1, U.S. No. 1.
 - c.2) For Chilean peaches: Extra Category, 'I' Category, 'II' Category.
 - c.3) For other countries: Extra Quality, First quality
- d) Peach size (e.g., 30" diameter series 3 3/8", 40" diameter series 3 1/8", 50" diameter 2 1/2", among others)
- e) Display of the peach: peach boxes must indicate the weight they contain in kilograms (e.g., in tray or in bulk of 11.34 kilograms (25 pounds))
- f) It should indicate if the product is fumigated or not.

- g) It should indicate where peaches come from by:
 - g.1) orchard
 - g.2) packing facility
 - g.3) zone

Full example:

Fresh Peach 0809.30.01 Box in bulk with 11.34 kgs.

Prisco Peach Not Fumigated (systems approach)

Elegant Lady Orchard No. 1 U.S. Extra No.1 Prima packing Size No. 60 Fresno County

(end of unofficial translation)

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Internet Connections

FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at http://www.fas-la.com/mexico or visit our headquarter's home page at http://www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.